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EXAMINER

AUGUSTINE, NICHOLAS

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2179

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07/05/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/674,049	Applicant(s) CONNORS ET AL.	
	Examiner Nicholas Augustine	Art Unit 2179	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/13/2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5,6,16 and 32-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5,6,16,32-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

A. In response to the following communications: Amendment filed 03/30/2007. This action is made **Final**.

B. Claims 1, 5-6, 16 and 32 are amended. Claims 2-4, 7-15 and 17-31 are canceled. Claims 33-41 are new. Claims 1, 5-6, 16 and 32-41 remain pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 5, 6, 16 and 32 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hansen, David R. (US 7,012,706 B1). Hansen teaches a comprehensive network print shop that includes various limitations sought by the present application.

Note: The use of (parenthesis) is citation inside of the claims. The use of [brackets] is citation of the reference(s).

As for independent claim 1, Hansen teaches in a document imaging system (100) [100] including a document imaging server (31) [118] and a user client device (1) [114], the document imaging server including a plurality of document images stored therein [114,118 col.6, line 50], and the client device including display unit (5) [114 "store front"], a method for the document imaging system to display a stored document image to a user (2), thus forming a displayed document image [figure 2, "visual operation"], and for the user to accept the displayed document image or else request a document image modification to the displayed document image [col.13, line13 and figure 2; wherein the preflight stage the user has the option to edit and the next stage "production" is finishing the product by means of printing col.9, lines 19-33], the method comprising: by the client device, communicate (205) to the server a user document image request to display a stored document image [figure 2, Clients Pc or Print Shop Client ->114], the user document image request including a user identification corresponding to the user ["registration" col.18, line 22] and a document image identification (915) corresponding to the stored document image to be displayed [col.24, line 32: URL is a document ID on the document library server]; by the document imaging server [col.6, lines 50-57]: receive (301,302) the user identification and the document identification as communicated from the client device corresponding to the displayed document image [col.18, line 21]; retrieve (305) a stored document image content (55) corresponding to the displayed document image [col.18, line 29]; retrieve (315) a

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document image modification request history (80) corresponding to the displayed document image [figure 2; wherein the system can display history through an annotation]; by the server and the display unit: form and display (325) to the user a document content rendering based on the stored document image, content (55) [col.12, line 45]; form and display (340) a document image modification request history rendering based on the retrieved document image modification request history (80) [col.12, line 45 and figure 2]; form and display (330) a user displayed document image accept means (420) for the user to accept the displayed document image [col.7, lines 10 and figure 2]; form and display (335) a user request displayed document image modification means (430) for the user to request a document image modification of the displayed document by the user: either accept (220) the displayed document image by activating the user displayed document image accept means or else request a document image modification of the displayed document image by activating the user request displayed document image modification means [col.7, lines 7-10, figure 2-3], where each document image modification comprises any of the following steps: (i) run a de-skew algorithm (756) in connection with the displayed document [col.7, line14] (ii) run a noise reduction algorithm (758) in connection with the displayed document image [col.7, line 17]; and (iii) retrieve and re-scan (757) by means of an included document scanning conversion device (90) the final hardcopy document (95) corresponding to the displayed document image [col.2, line19].

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As for dependent claim 5, Hansen teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the user displayed document image accept means (420) comprises a user click button [col.6, line 42].

As for dependent claim 6, Hansen teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the user request displayed document image, modification means (430) comprises a user click button [col.6, line 42; and col.7, line 8].

As for independent claim 16, Hansen teaches in a document imaging system (100) including a document imaging server (31) and a user client device (1), the document imaging server including a plurality of document images stored therein, the client device including a display unit (5) to display a document image that has been retrieved from the document imaging server and currently is being displayed, thus forming a displayed document image, a method for an imaging for a user (2) to request a desired document image modification in the displayed document image [figure 2 and col.7, lines 7-46], comprising: by the document imaging server [col.6, line 50]: retrieve (505) a document image identification corresponding to the displayed document image, determine (510) a document image type and determine (515) a first set of allowable document image modifications (810, 815, 820) based on the document image type image [figure 2; wherein the system can display history through an annotation and col.24, line 32: URL is a document ID on the document library server]; retrieve (525) a user identification corresponding to the user ["registration" col.18, line 22; retrieve

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(530) a request document image modification history {80} comprising a second set of previous document image modification requests corresponding to the displayed document image [col.12, line 45 and figure 2]; by the server and the display unit [figure 1 "store front" 114 and 116]: form and display (520) a rendering (805) of the first set of allowable modifications corresponding to the displayed document image [col.12, line 45 and figure 2]; form and display a first selecting means (811, 816, 821) for the user to select at least one allowable document image modification [col.7, lines 7-10 and figure 2]; form and display a rendering (850) of the second set of previous document image modification requests corresponding to the displayed document image [col.12, line 45 and figure 2]; form and display a second selecting means (79, 851) for the user to select at least one previous document image modification request that describes the document image modification that the user desires to make in the displayed document image; and by the user, using the second selecting means to select at least one previous document image modification request; where each document image modification comprises any of a de-skew (756) of the displayed document image, a noise reduction (758) of the displayed document image and a retrieval and a re-scan (757) by means of an included document scanning conversion device (90) of an original hardcopy document (95) corresponding to the displayed document image; and where each document image modification request comprises a request for any of a de-skew (756) of the displayed document image, a noise reduction (758) of the displayed document image and a retrieval and a re-scan (757) by means of an included document scanning conversion

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device (90) of an original hardcopy document (95) corresponding to the displayed document image [col.7, lines 7-36]. [Also note the analysis of claim 1 above].

As for independent claim 32, Hansen teaches in a document imaging system (100) arranged to provide document imaging services, the document imaging system including at least one document image stored therein and arranged to be displayed as a displayed document image, a method for a user (2) to request a document image modification in the displayed document image, the method comprising, by the document imaging system: provide a first selecting means for the user to select a document image modification that the user desires to make in the displayed document image; provide a second selecting means for the user to select a previously-requested document image modification that previously has been requested in connection with the displayed document image; and by the user, use the first selecting means to select a document image modification that the user desires to make in the displayed document image or else use the second selecting means to select a previously-requested document image modification, which previously-requested document image modification describes the document image modification that the user desires to make in the displayed document image [note the analysis of claim 1 and 16 above].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 33-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hansen (7,012,706) in view of Hansen (US 6,509,974).

As for dependent claim 33, Hansen teaches the method of claim 16. Hansen does not expressly mention the use of a checkbox, however in the same field of endeavor Hansen teaches where the first selecting means comprises a first group of checkboxes, where each checkbox of the first group of checkboxes corresponds to exactly one member of the first set of allowable document image

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modifications and where the first group of checkboxes is arranged to be selectively activated by the user to select at least one allowable document image modification (col.6, lines 61-67 and col.7 lines 1-9; wherein it be of course appreciated to those skilled in the art with the acknowledgment of this explanation of the GUI presented by Hansen that the use of checkboxes although not literally explained can be an obvious variant to the already given example list of GUI elements. Of course those skilled in the art recognize the use of checkboxes as a common GUI element found in the art). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Hansen into Hansen, this is true because the discloser differing embodiments of the same invention (col.2, lines 16-46).

As for dependent claim 34, Hansen teaches the method of claim 16 where the second selecting means comprises a second group of checkboxes, where each checkbox of the second group of checkboxes corresponds to exactly one member of the second set of previous document image modification requests and where the second group of checkboxes is arranged to be selectively activated by the user to select at least one previous document image modification request and including a step, by the user, of selecting at least one previous document image modification request by activating the corresponding checkbox of the second group of checkboxes [note the analysis of claim 33].

As for dependent claim 35, Hansen teaches the method of claim 32 including

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provide a display of a set of document image modifications, which document image modifications are allowed in connection with the displayed document image [note the analysis of claims 1 and 16].

As for dependent claim 36, Hansen teaches the method of claim 35 where the first selecting means comprises a first group of checkboxes, where each checkbox of the first group of checkboxes corresponds to exactly one member of the set of document image modifications and is arranged to be selectively activated by the user to thereby select the corresponding document image modification [note the analysis of claim 33].

As for dependent claim 37, Hansen teaches the method of claim 35 where the document image modification comprises any the following: (i) run a de-skew algorithm (756) in connection with the displayed document image; (ii) run a noise reduction algorithm (758) in connection with the displayed document image; and (iii) retrieve and re-scan (757) by means of an included document scanning conversion device (90) the original hardcopy document (95) corresponding to the displayed document image [note the analysis of claim 1].

As for dependent claim 38, Hansen teaches the method of claim 32 including provide a display of a set of previously requested document image modifications that previously have been requested in connection with the displayed document

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image [note the analysis of claims 1 and 16].

As for dependent claim 39, Hansen teaches the method of claim 38 where the second selecting means comprises a second group of checkboxes, where each checkbox of the second group of checkboxes corresponds to exactly one member of the set of previously-requested document image modifications and is arranged to be selectively activated by the user to thereby select the corresponding previously-requested document image modification [note the analysis of claim 33].

As for dependent claim 40, Hansen teaches the method of claim 38 where the previously-requested document image modification comprises any of the following: (i) run a de-skew algorithm (756) in connection with the displayed document image; (ii) run a noise reduction algorithm (758) in connection with the displayed document image; and (iii) retrieve and re-scan (757) by means of an included document scanning conversion device (90) the original hardcopy document (95) corresponding to the displayed document image [note the analysis of claims 1 and 16].

As for dependent claim 41, Hansen teaches the method of claim 32 where the at least one document image stored in the document imaging system is formed by scanning an original hardcopy document (95) by means of an included conversion device (90) [note the analysis of claim 1 and 16].

(*) It is noted that any citation to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. In re Heck, 699 F.2d 1331, 1332-33, 216 USPQ 1038, 1039 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (quoting In re Lemelson, 397 F.2d 1006, 1009, 158 USPQ 275, 277 (CCPA 1968)).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1,5,6,16,32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.


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Inquires

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas Augustine whose telephone number is 571-270-1056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday: 7:30- 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



N. Augustine
June 25, 2007

Nicholas Augustine
Examiner
AU: 2179



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